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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

YUICHI HIGUCHI, et al.

Application No.: 08/909,966

Filed: August 12, 1997

For: PRINTING APPARATUS AND

ITS CONTROL METHOD

66 FEB 1 3 1998

February 12,

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to Application No. 08/604,567.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(iii), no copy of Application No. 08/604,567 is enclosed, nor has the application been listed on attached Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is respectfully directed to Patent and Trademark Office Files to review the application. In this regard, Application No. 08/604,567 is currently being examined of the Examiner Scroup Art Unit 2415.

It is Applicants' belief that the Japanese proprity application for Application No. 08/604,567 was published before the filing date of the subject application.

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Inasmuch as the subject application has not yet received a first Office Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our California Office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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